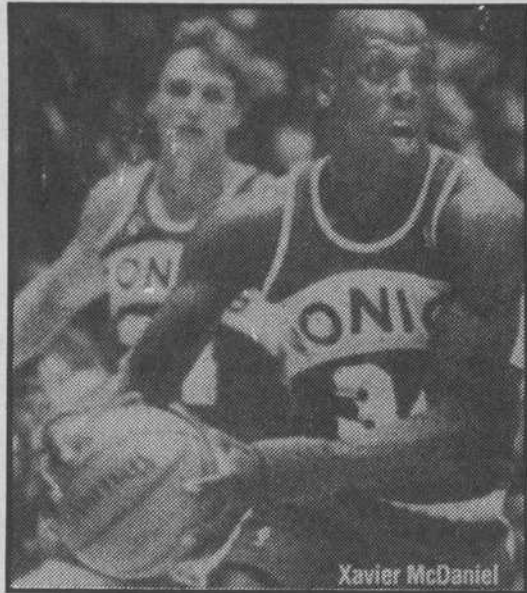


Sonics' McDaniel Out Four to Six Weeks



Xavier McDaniel

SEATTLE — Seattle SuperSonics forward Xavier McDaniel will be out four to six weeks with cartilage damage in his right knee.

McDaniel, who was

averaging 22.8 points per game, underwent surgery Friday. It was determined he damaged the same part of his knee as he did in January 1988.

Sacramento Passes on L.A. Raiders

Sacramento, Calif. - The competition for the Los Angeles Raiders football team appears to have thinned with the announcement by city officials that they will not renew their \$50 million fran-

chise proposal after the Feb. 28 deadline expires.

Sacramento City Manager Walte Slipe said Friday he will recommend the city council let its bid for the Raiders lapse.

Managers File Law-Suit Against Boxer Page

LOUISVILLE, Ky. - Heavyweight boxer Greg Page has been accused of breach of contract in a lawsuit filed by three of his managers, including his brother.

Dennis Page, Wellington Guess and Michael Johnson contend in the suit Greg Page entered into an exclusive three-year agreement with them in January 1989.

The men seek money due them, plus interest. They also want a judge to rule on the validity of the contract.

Tyson's Sister Dies

The 24-year-old sister of deposed heavyweight champion Mike Tyson died of an apparent heart attack on Wednesday, police said.

Denise Anderson was found unconscious by her husband in their home in Queens.

Initial reports indicated that Anderson, who weighed between 300 and 400 pounds, may have died of cardiac arrest.

SPORTS REVIEW

TBS Signs Deal to Broadcast NFL

Ted Turner's SuperStation WTBS moved up another rung on the respectability chart by agreeing with the NFL to a four-year, \$450 million contract to show 47 prime-time games, beginning this fall. Most of the games will be aired on Sunday nights. The deal calls to televise three preseason games each year and eight to nine regular season games.

Marble Violates Drug Policy, Suspended

ATLANTA - Atlanta Hawks rookie guard Roy Marble was suspended by the National Basketball Association for the remainder of the season for violating the league's substance abuse policy.

The Hawks had no comment on the suspension.

A rookie who fails a drug test is treated as if he came forward voluntarily for the first time and is required to follow the after-care provisions of the Anti-Drug agreement before reinstatement. Marble's suspension runs through the playoffs and cannot be lifted until next season.

Marble averaged 2.1 points and 1 rebound in 24 games.



Just Another Labor Dispute

Baseball in the 1990s has opened with yet another labor dispute. I think it's a sad thing to have reached this point again in baseball. It takes the playing and the enjoyment out of what used to be a "boys' game," as Roy Campanella would say.

Baseball also used to be a game that everybody in America could understand. Now it's a game of how much money one side can take away from the other.

The toughest part about the negotiations is that no matter how much is written about it, the average person on the street making \$300 a week is not going to understand what all the arguing is about. I'm talking about average men or women who wake up at 6 a.m. and have to be at work at 7:30 a.m. They pick up the paper and read that Will Clark makes \$4 million a year, and then they read about a possible baseball strike. The average person is not going to grasp what a strike or a lockout is all about.

As far as the impact of a labor dispute on individual players, most of them won't feel a thing. So many players have long-term contracts and receive big money in bonuses for signing. Their money is guaranteed whether their team plays or not. So if the season is delayed, their lives will continue on. The only decision they would face would be whether to fly to Nassau or Europe or some other holiday spot.

One thing is for certain, no one has to worry about any players standing in line for food stamps. The average salary these days is more than the superstars made 10 years ago.

The minor leagues will not be greatly affected by all this. Only a few first-year players on the rosters of big league clubs are required to begin spring training in the major league camp. The other minor leaguers will be able to proceed with training.

As for the public, I don't see where labor disputes hurt ticket sales in the long run. Many people sit back and say they will never attend another baseball game. But once the players are back on the field, all of those pledges are forgotten.

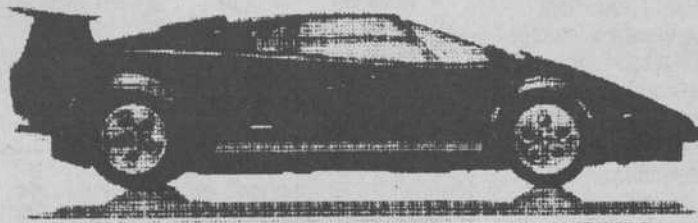
The one lingering effect may be with the young people. When they see both the players and the owners being greedy, the game has got to lose some of its magic for them.

But we might as well get used to these labor disputes. Sad to say, I believe they always will be a part of the game of baseball in the future. *Ed*

Hank Aaron is the top home run hitter of all time with 755 homers. A member of baseball's Hall of Fame, Hank is senior vice president of the Atlanta Braves.

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